

Fig. 1. — *Deiregyne alinae* Szlach. : a, habit; b, flower; c, dorsal sepal and petal; d, lateral sepal; e, lip; f, gynostemium, bottom view; g, rostellum remnant. (J. Santa Martinez 2037).

covered by scarios, semi-transparent cauline bracts. Leaves lacking at flowering time. Inflorescence 90-120 mm long, 40-60-flowered, dense, cylindrical. Flowers erect in lower part and horizontal in upper part, distinctly constricted above the ovary, small. Floral bracts 13-15 mm long, ovate, acute, scarios, semi-transparent, 3-nerved. Ovary 5.7-6 mm long, slightly twisted, glabrous or almost so. Sepals fused to one another forming the sepaline tube, white, dorsal sepal 8.5-9 mm long, 2.7-4 mm wide, elliptic- to oblong-ovate, acute, 3-nerved, with a papillose epidermis on both sides; lateral sepals 9-12 mm long, 3 mm wide, falcate at the base, broader above, oblong-elliptic, obtuse, 3-nerved, papillose on both sides. Petals 6-6.5 mm long, 2-2.7 mm wide, falcate at the base, oblong-spathulate above, obtuse to subacute, 3-nerved, papillose. Lip set on claw (2 mm long), fused to the sepaline tube, distinctly divided; hypochile 1-1.5 mm long, 2-2.6 mm wide, more or less square, with two fleshy auricles at the base, pubescent on the margins; epichile 4.2 mm long, 3.3-4 mm wide, ovate-orbicular, papillose, hooded at the apex. Gynostemium 3-3.5 mm long. Column foot 3-3.5 mm long, adnate to the ovary neck. Anther 1.8-2 mm long. Viscidium 1 mm long, elliptic to obovate-elliptic.

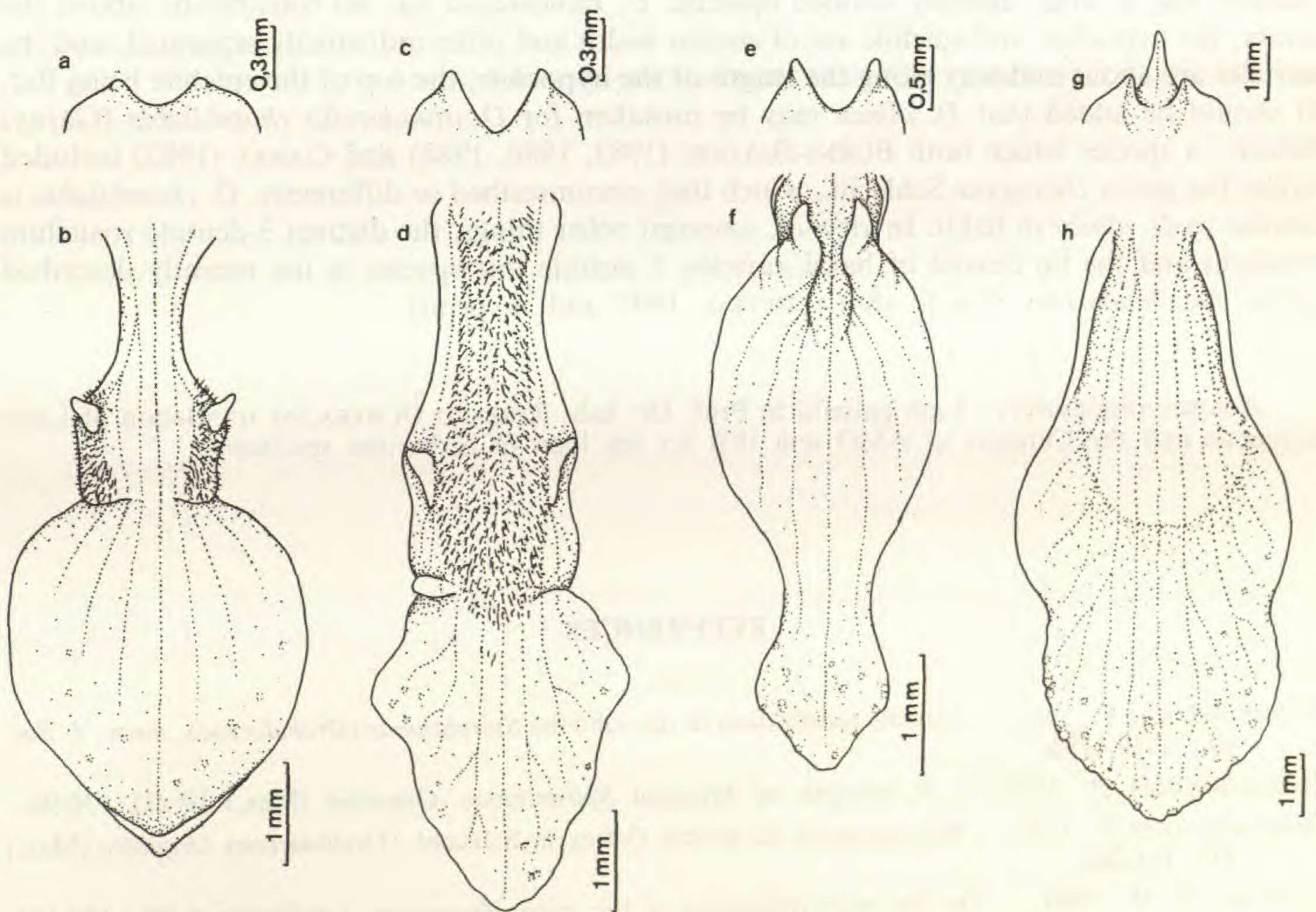


Fig. 2. — Comparison of the rostellum remnant (above) and lip form (below) between *Deiregyne alinae* Szlach. (a, b), *D. ramentacea* (Lindl.) Schlecht. (c, d), *D. pyramidalis* (Lindl.) Burns-Balogh (e, f) and *Oestlundorchis rhombilabia* (Garay) Szlach. (g, h).

TYPUS : *J. Santa Martinez 2037*, Mexico, Michoacan, Puerto de Los Lobos, al NE de la Hierbabuena, Municipio de Indaparapeo. Hab. bosque de encino, alt. 2400 m, 18 Apr 1987 (holo-, IEB).

PARATYPUS : *J. Santa Martinez 1339*, Mexico, Michoacan, municipio de Querendaro, cerro Zacaton, cerca de Milpillas. Bosque de *Quercus*, ladera de cerro, sobre penas, alt. 2800 m, 3 May 1986 (AMO).

Named after my wife, Alina, in gratitude for her patience and help during my work on the *Spiranthinae*.

In habit this species is similar to *Deiregyne pyramidalis* (Lindl.) Burns-Balogh; in both the inflorescence is dense, long, cylindrical, with numerous small flowers. The two differ distinctly, however, in the type of flowers and the form of the lip. In *D. pyramidalis* the ovary neck is very short and the undivided lip ovoid-lanceolate, whereas in *D. alinae*, the ovary neck is relatively long (cf. section *Deiregyne* after BURNS-BALOGH, 1988), and the lip is distinctly contracted in the center. As regards the structure of the flower and its parts, *D. alinae* is somewhat similar to *D. ramentacea* (Lindl.) Schlecht. The distinguishing features of the former species are: a distinct narrowing between the ovary and sepaline tube; a very small hypochile with basal auricles and a large, apically hooded epichile. *D. ramentacea* has no constriction above the ovary, the hypochile and epichile are of similar width and often indistinctly separated, and the auricles are about mid-way along the length of the hypochile, the top of the epichile being flat. It should be added that *D. alinae* may be mistaken for *Oestlundorchis rhombilabia* (Garay) Szlach., a species which both BURNS-BALOGH (1982, 1986, 1988) and GARAY (1982) included under the genus *Deiregyne* Schlecht., which they circumscribed so differently. *O. rhombilabia* is similar to *D. alinae* in habit. In view of, amongst other things, the distinct 3-dentate rostellum remnant and the lip devoid of basal auricles, I include this species in the recently described genus *Oestlundorchis* Szlach. (SZLACHETKO, 1991 and in print).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS : I am grateful to Prof. Dr. hab. RYSZARD OCHYRA for translation of Latin diagnosis and the Curators of AMO and IEB for the loan of herbarium specimens.

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